

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY

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SATURDAY.....APRIL 10, 1897.

LET US REJOICE.

Most of the Republican newspapers are doing all they can to belittle the recent Democratic victories in the West. They are trying mightily hard to convince themselves and the public that those victories are "without political significance" or "practical consequence." Nevertheless, we cannot but observe that those elections have had the effect of making Democrats jubilant and Republicans "sore."

The candid investigator is bound to see a political significance in the elections in question. In the first place, they give new and potent proof of the vitality of the Democratic party. Again, they show that thousands of Democrats—especially workingmen—have taken the very first opportunity that has come to them to return to their places in our party. Both of these are alarming facts for the Republicans to consider. But, what is more, those victories must be regarded as the voice of the people crying out that the McKinleyites have come into power upon false pretences. Where is all the prosperity that was predicted as the result of the overthrow of the silver forces? What pledge or promise of theirs has been fulfilled?

While we rejoice from a party standpoint, because of our western victories, we rejoice also on behalf of the whole country. We believe that these mutterings of public disapprobation will have the course of the Republican party will have a good effect upon tariff legislation.

The Dingley bill, as passed by the House, is a monstrous monument of chicanery. In many particulars it is a delivery of the business interests of the country into the hands of a lot of shameless speculators, whose only claim for consideration by Congress is that they were liberal contributors to the Hanna campaign-fund of last year.

But we venture to predict that the Senate will not be so subservient to Dingley and Hanna as the House has been. There is no Czar Reed to control the Senate. Nor is there any Republican majority to spare in the Senate as in the House. So, most of the senators will be independent of the influences that controlled the majority in the House. Thus, we may rely upon it that the Senate will amend and improve the Dingley bill, and the House will be compelled to accept most of the Senate amendments—or let the bill fail!

Would the Republicans dare to let the bill fail? Would they be bold enough to allow the extra session of Congress to close without effecting any tariff legislation? We think not.

To do so would be to bring their party and the administration into contempt and ridicule. And so we think that not only will the Senate modify the Dingley disgrace, but that it will force the House to meet it more than half-way in reducing tariff rates.

Further, we contend that the recent Democratic victories in the West will strengthen the hands of the independent senators very much, and weaken the Reed-Dingley crowd to a corresponding degree.

So, let us be thankful for the turn that things have taken, and let us be hopeful that they will result not only in good to our party, but to all the business interests of our country.

STREET-CAR SERVICE.

It is a fact that during certain hours the cars on the Main-street line here are overcrowded, but it is not fair to assume that like cause for complaint does not exist in most other cities of this country.

many of our business-men were on their way down town. It was a mistake of the company not to have had more cars running during those hours. So, too, extra cars are needed daily when people are going up town in greatest numbers.

Quite probably the day will never come when any city will have upon its street-car lines enough cars to meet all demands, especially sudden demands, but where experience has pointed out the hours when more cars will be surely needed the companies can hardly be excused for neglecting to provide them.

THE MISSISSIPPI FLOOD.

The story of the flood in the Lower Mississippi Valley is a harrowing record of desolation, wreck, ruin, and suffering. Fortunately, the loss of human life has been comparatively small. In this day of weather bureaus and telegraphic network, the people living on the banks of the Father of Waters are afforded much more time in which to make preparations for seeking, in case of overflow, places of safety, than were their ancestors, who depended for warning of rains above and a rush of water upon the cry, and the waving of torches, along the levees. But the value of property destroyed will mount up into the millions, and thousands of people have been rendered homeless.

And the worst of it is that the end is not yet in sight, and may not be for some time. The flood, practically commenced in February, has already attained proportions that render it one of the most tremendous known for years, and a fear is that the greatest rise is still to come.

It is also feared that before the present volume of water materially decreases, it will be augmented by the freshets consequent upon the May rains. In that event the flood would probably not subside until it was too late for the planters to cultivate their inundated lands. This would mean not only great additional loss to the planters, but additional suffering for the plantation laborers, many of whom have lost their "little all" in the flood.

DO LEVEES PROTECT?

The ravages of the flood upon the great levee system of the Southwest has again brought under discussion the question, Do levees protect, and can they be made safeguards against such disasters as this one that has just overwhelmed the lower Mississippi Valley?

The New Orleans Playhouse vigorously champions the affirmative side of the question, and declares that it is useless to talk of any other scheme of protecting the country along the Mississippi and its tributaries, that is subject to overflow. It points to a number of levees that have resisted the pressure of the water, each of which, it says, is a monument to the protective powers of the system, and brings out the interesting fact that vasty more money has been spent in rebuilding levees that have caved into the river than in replacing those that were swept away in crevasses.

In short, the Playhouse contends that the solution of the problem of thorough protection is not in substituting any other system for the present one, but in an improved method of construction, of levees, by which the banks supporting the superstructure would be shielded from caving in. Certainly it would seem that the engineering skill of this age ought to be able to supply that desideratum.

HISTORIC DATES.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the surrender at Appomattox Court-house—1865-1867! Thirty-two eventful years.

On April 27th, the anniversary of the birth of General Grant, the imposing monument beneath which his body will be finally laid to rest will be dedicated.

April 27th is also the anniversary of "the Capitol disaster"—the accident in the Capitol here by which about sixty-five people were killed and 200 others wounded. That occurred in 1856 and on Christmas morning of the same year the Spotswood Hotel here was destroyed by fire, with considerable loss of life.

The New York Herald, while admitting that local issues had something to do with the results of the western elections, enumerates the following as among the chief causes of the revolution:

"The arbitration treaty strangled, the appointment of a currency commission deferred, the Silverites encouraged, and a tariff bill which would deprive the farmers of favored industries to exact double prices from the American people, while exporting similar goods to undersell the foreigner in his own market."

A pretty good summary, but the Herald might have added as another potent cause the continued idleness of the thousands who were led by the specious promises of the Republicans to believe that the election of McKinley would mean a return of prosperity.

Phoebe Cousins, one of the earliest "and oftentimes" advocates of woman suffrage in this country, has given up the cause. She says now, out of the abundance of her long experience and observation: "I look upon the outside life (for women), impelled by necessity, as in a majority of cases to be simply experimental. It cannot be conclusive, for the vast majority of women prefer the quiet domestic life, while man, by nature, seeks the conflicts of the outer world and its theories, and grows therein. Woman in public life will never prove satisfactory. She is naturally a homekeeper. I would advise all young women to marry and become housekeepers."

King George of Greece has been invited to attend the Tennessee Centennial. This ought to help him bear his troubles with Turkey, and will, if he looks at it aright.

Norfolk and the Convention.

(Norfolk Landmark.)

MAYOR SIGNED THE BUDGET.

But He Does It Reluctantly—Information from the City Auditor.

Mayor Richard M. Taylor yesterday afternoon signed the ordinance making appropriations to the various city departments for the fiscal year 1897, and the budget is now in effect. This step on the part of his Honor was reluctantly taken, as he regarded that there was one very grave reason for vetoing it. In the interest of the departments of the city, and because of the fact that many citizens to whom the municipal government owed money were needing their funds, the Mayor waived his objections and signed the budget.

The ordinance of appropriations was concurred in by the Common Council on Wednesday night, and on Thursday morning Mayor Taylor pronounced to City Auditor Warren several official questions in connection therewith. One of these interrogatories had reference to the difference in the estimated receipts for the fiscal year 1897, as made by himself, and those made up by the Finance Committee and contained in the budget, upon which the allowances to the departments were based. The reply of the Auditor stated that the Finance Committee placed the receipts at \$1,352,849, or \$13,529 more than the Auditor's estimate of what they would be. The Mayor was violently opposed to the budget exceeding the estimate of the Auditor, who, he thinks, should be regarded as the financial representative of the city in such matters.

Mayor Taylor also had a few other objections to the ordinance, but in the interest of harmony and the general welfare of the several departments he acquiesced in the measure and signed the budget. Below is given the correspondence between the Auditor, and Mayor Taylor in reference to this question:

Richmond, Va., April 9, 1897.
Edward J. Warren, Esq., City Auditor:
Dear Sir—Please give me officially, in writing, the following information:
1. What is your estimate of total receipts for the year 1897?
2. Does the total of appropriations, as concurred in by the Council last night, exceed your estimate of receipts?
3. In the curtailment of appropriations to the different departments, which of them are seriously diminished, and to what extent below the amounts usually given to them?
4. What is the present indebtedness of the city, outside of the bonded debt, which the sinking fund is over-intended to liquidate?
5. What provision is made to liquidate in whole, or in part, this outside indebtedness?

Your immediate attention to these inquiries will oblige. Yours truly,
RICHARD M. TAYLOR, Mayor.

City Auditor's Office,
Richmond, Va., April 9, 1897.
Hon. R. M. Taylor, Mayor:

Dear Sir—In reply to your favor of the 8th instant, I beg leave to submit the following:
Answer to first question—Table marked A, showing the Auditor's estimate of probable receipts for the year 1897, amounting in the aggregate to \$1,337,320. The said estimate does not include the amount which the Light Department will realize from credits for gas consumed by the different departments of the City Government. If the law is enforced the receipts will probably be increased \$7,000, making gas receipts \$177,000, and the total, \$1,344,320.

In answer to second inquiry, I enclose a copy of the estimate adopted by the Council, marked B, amounting in the aggregate to \$1,352,849, which shows an increase of \$18,529 over the estimate submitted by the Auditor.

In answer to third inquiry, I submit table marked C, showing the amounts appropriated and the amounts expended for the fiscal year ending January 31, 1897, the amounts reported by the different departments as needed for the fiscal year 1897, and the amounts allowed by the ordinance of appropriation.

In answer to fourth inquiry, I submit table marked D, showing the amount of cash on hand, showing total the unexpended balances of 1896, which must be provided for in 1897, less the amount of cash on hand showing total of the floating debt to be \$29,325.45.

In answer to fifth inquiry, I beg to say that I am not advised of any provision made to retire the floating debt, beyond the amount reported by the different departments as needed for the fiscal year 1897, which is included in the annual appropriation. Respectfully,
EDWARD J. WARREN, City Auditor.

All these tables have been published in full in the Dispatch.

City-Hall Court News.

The case of E. F. Turner, the colored real estate agent, who is under indictment for embezzlement, was to have been tried in the Hustings Court yesterday morning, but his attorney, Mr. H. M. Smith, Jr., who was busy in the United States Court, secured a continuance.

Walter Jenkins was acquitted on the charge of house-breaking. Jenkins was charged with breaking into a broom factory, Thomas Smith, Jr., who was indicted for the same offense, but Mr. Richardson entered a nolle prosequi in their cases.

A marriage license was issued to Harry W. Norma, and Miss Ada Cole. In the Law and Equity Court yesterday judgment was rendered in the case of Temple, Pemberton, Cordes & Co. against Mrs. Fannie Cox Kelbon, for \$126.52.

Caught Between the Bumpers.

George P. Morgan, an employee of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company, was painfully injured in an accident on the freight-train at Hancock and Broad streets, yesterday morning. He was coupling two cars together, when his left hand was caught between the bumpers and two of his fingers badly mashed. The sufferer was taken to the office of Dr. J. M. Winfree, who dressed the wounded member. Thence Mr. Morgan was taken to his home, No. 1021 West Marshall street.

To Meet at Barton Heights.

The Baptist Sunday-School Association of Richmond and Manassas will hold their monthly meeting with the Barton Heights church to-morrow afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The exercises promise to be of an interesting character, and will embrace addresses by Rev. Dr. L. R. Thornhill, of Manassas, and Rev. H. L. Quarles, of Broadus Memorial.

Supreme Court of Appeals.

Rosenbaum vs. Seldon. Argued by F. W. Christian, Esq., for defendant, and Judge Waller R. Staples for plaintiff, and submitted.

Tyce vs. Lake. Passed.

Richmond and West Point Land and Improvement Company vs. Town of West Point. Argued by Major James H. Dooley and continued until Monday next.

The next case to be called is Bell Company vs. Wood, No. 2, on argument docket.

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Mrs. MOLLE FLORSHEIM,
Administratrix,
323 EAST BROAD STREET, CORNER FOURTH,
announces that only three weeks lies between now and May 1st (when the lease expires) to close out her fresh and clean line of Clothing, Men's and Boys' Hats, and Gentlemen's Furnishings. You can now buy the above articles at less than auction prices—less than 50c. on the dollar. The whole stock must be sold within the required term.

WARRENTON.

Beautiful Farm Sold—Personal—An Easter Hop.

WARRENTON, April 9.—(Special.)—St. Leonard's, the beautiful farm belonging to the late Mr. W. E. Hurxthal, and lying about a mile from town, was sold on Tuesday to Mr. Joseph Ullman, for the small sum of \$20 per acre.

Mr. C. W. Smith recently sold an attractive house and lot on Waterloo street to Mr. A. W. P. Trotter, who will make his home here. Mr. Smith also has a probable purchaser in Mr. Samuel A. Appleby, of Philadelphia, who is looking for a place.

The Warren Green Hotel has been rented to Mr. John L. Miles, of Washington, and it is understood that he will make a great many improvements there. Major R. T. Scott and family returned this week from Richmond, and received a warm welcome from their many friends here.

Hon. E. E. Meredith and Mr. Robert Hutcheson, of Manassas, attended Circuit Court here this week.

Mr. Archie Bevan, of Millwood, Clark county, is visiting his cousin, Mr. N. B. Bevan.

Mrs. McKay, of Charlottesville, is the guest of the Misses Day.

Mrs. Portenau entertained a few friends yesterday at afternoon tea.

Colonel Thomas Smith, Chief Justice of New Mexico, is again in Warrenton. A protracted meeting will be held by Rev. Mr. Hines, of Richmond, in the Baptist church, beginning on Monday next.

Invitations are out for an Easter hop at Bethel Military Academy on Monday evening, the 19th.

OLD BURG AND VICINITY.

Deaths—A Pastor Leaves—A Desperate Assault.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., April 9.—(Special.)—Miss Nannie Gordon died at a late hour last night at the home here of her brother-in-law, M. G. Willis, Esq. The funeral will take place to-morrow from the Baptist church. Miss Gordon was a woman of the highest Christian character, and will be greatly missed by her church, friends, and family.

Mr. M. C. Fippus, aged 72 years, died at her home, in Caroline county, last night. She was the wife of J. B. Fippus, a prominent citizen of that county.

Mr. S. G. Ferguson left this morning for his new charge at Martinsburg, W. Va.

Isaiah Brown, (colored), made a desperate assault on Wesley Powell (also colored) at Wallace's fishing shore, on the Potomac, yesterday. Powell was struck with a club, and his ear severed from his head. He was unconscious when found. His assailant has not been caught.

CAUGHT IN PHILADELPHIA.

William Buckner, Who Is Wanted for Murder in Middlesex.

STORMONT, VA., April 9.—(Special.)—William Buckner, (colored), who murdered Louis Moore at Dillake's Bar, near here, on the 14th of January and escaped, has been arrested in Philadelphia. The Sheriff of this county left here to-day via the West Line with Governor Ferrall's requisition on Governor Hastings, of Pennsylvania, and the prisoner will be lodged in Saluda jail on Monday.

Buckner's wife left here and went North. Detectives got on his track by first finding a letter in his more brutal murder, and the community has been considerably excited over what they suppose to be tardiness on the part of the officials in bringing this man to justice. The case will come up in Judge Garnett's court on the 28th. The State pays \$100 reward and expenses of transportation.

The Work of an Incendiary.

April 8, 1897.
To the Editor of the Dispatch:
Please correct the following error which you made in your issue of the 6th in regard to the fire at Keysville. You stated that the fire broke out in the store of C. A. Hunt & Co. This was not the case. The store was set on fire from the outside of the house, already charred by the fire of the 3d. A barrel of straw, saturated with oil, was rolled from the store after the fire was discovered. We had no fire in the store at all. Our loss was \$5,500, with \$1,000 insurance. Will settle all claims in sixty days.
C. A. HUNT & CO.

Tesla's New Discovery.

(Holland, in Philadelphia Press.)

Nicola Tesla is one of those who doubt the expediency of much of the testing of the effect of the Roentgen ray upon human tissues, unless there has been long and patient investigation. It is said that his theory is that the influence of this ray is to destroy tissue, or, at least, to produce a long time he has been experimenting with apparatus, such as would be able to produce the mysterious ray, and utilize it, perhaps, in a better way than the present apparatus does.

He briefly announced, at the annual meeting of the Academy of Science, yesterday, that he had made an apparatus which would produce the Roentgen ray from a new source. He only says that from now on he is the source, but would not say more than to intimate that there may be results of extraordinary importance flowing from his discovery.

The Democratic Primary.

(Lynchburg News.)

Democrats, in the South at least, appear to be getting together. In nearly every town of Alabama, where the division on the currency issue was sharper, perhaps, than in any other Southern State, the calls for primary elections have been made loud enough to embrace all Democrats who are willing to pledge their good faith for an honest support of the party nominees.

This is as it should be, under the circumstances, and it is pleasing to have had a similar exhibition of prudence and conservatism by the Democratic Executive Committee of Lynchburg. The call for the primary election to be held on the 28th instant gives the right of participation to every good citizen who has been identified with the Democratic party in State and municipal elections, and is willing to pledge his support to the primary nominees. No Democrat need stay out unless he prefers to perpetuate animosities, or desires to endanger municipal good government.

The division that was engendered at the recent national election has inspired some persons with the hope, and encouraged the expectation of overthrowing Democratic rule in the city government of Lynchburg. Already a secret

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political society has been formed with this purpose in view, and a programme has been promulgated, the consummation of which would mean the bankruptcy to the town. If the Democrats of Lynchburg want that sort of thing, they can have it, and, moreover, are in a fair way to get it. Unless there is a prompt and possible action on the part of the people of an earnest and united effort in behalf of Democratic control, the city will pass into the hands of persons whose avowed policy would create confusion and civil strife. No city ought to be willing to have its affairs administered by an oath-bound secret society.

Pauper Inherits a Fortune.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., April 9.—Arthur Quinn, of this city, who is at present on leave of absence from his position in the U. S. Army, is heir to a fortune of \$20,000 by the death of his brother, Frank Quinn, in Philadelphia, five years ago, and of the latter's wife, who died recently, in Pennsylvania.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES SUNDAY.

PARK-PLACE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (corner Pine and west Franklin streets)—Rev. THOMAS S. PUTNEY, Pastor—services at 11 A. M. conducted by Rev. W. S. CAMPBELL, and at 8 P. M. conducted by the Pastor. Subject for evening sermon, "The Third Commandment."

CLAY-STREET METHODIST CHURCH (corner of Clay and Adams streets)—Rev. E. H. RAWLINS, Pastor—SUNDAY by the Pastor at 11 o'clock A. M.—Subject, "Breaking Up the Palace." At 8 o'clock P. M.—Subject, "The Temple Is to Be Built." First in a series of three sermons on temptation. Sunday school at 9:15 o'clock A. M. Class meeting Tuesday night at 8 o'clock. Midweek services WEDNESDAY NIGHT at 8 o'clock. Devotional meeting of Epworth League FRIDAY NIGHT at 8 o'clock. All welcome.

CENTENARY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH (corner of Fourth and Fifth)—Rev. W. V. TUCKER, D. D., Pastor—SUNDAY at 11 A. M. and at 8 P. M. by the Pastor. At 8 P. M., sermon before Company C.

BROAD-STREET METHODIST CHURCH (corner of Broad and Tenth streets)—SUNDAY at 11 A. M. and at 8 P. M. by the Pastor, Rev. W. G. STARR, D. D. Morning subject, "Is There Such a Thing as Demagoguery in the Nineteenth Century?" At night, "A Chapter in the History of a Soul Ten Thousand Years After Death." A cordial welcome to all.